



Cherryhurst Civic Club Newsletter

October 2004

Civic Club Meeting this Thursday, October 21

The next meeting of the Cherryhurst Civic Club will be Thursday, October 21, from 7-8 p.m. at the Cherryhurst Park Center, 1700 Missouri Street.

The meeting will focus on the proposed Water Main upgrade by the City's Public Works and Engineering Departments. We hope to have representatives from Councilwoman Ada Edwards' office and PWE on hand.

Cherryhurst Water Main Upgrades Proposed

by Mark Johnson

Over the past few weeks residents have been receiving letters from the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department (PWE), describing a program to replace our existing water mains, located in the alleys, with new water mains to be located in the streets.

Many residents contacted the Civic Club, expressing concern for potential damage to our neighborhood's beautiful live oaks, as well as streets, sidewalks and property improvements. Most wondered why the water mains were not going to be upgraded in the alleyways, as were our sewers last year.

The Civic Club contacted Nzinga Rideaux and Dena Gray of Councilwoman Ada Edward's office, and Gary Norman and Cesar Ramirez of PWE, inquiring about the project.

Gary Norman of PWE noted that the program is just getting underway, and is not slated for actual construction in the near future. Mr. Norman's email letter follows.

**PROPOSED CHERRYHURST WATER MAIN
IMPROVEMENTS; EMAIL LETTER
FROM CITY OF HOUSTON PUBLIC
WORKS AND ENGINEERING**

September 'Cherryhurst Cleanup'

by Mark Johnson

From 8 until 11 a.m. Saturday, September 18, Cherryhurst residents met at the park, divided up into teams and collected trash from the neighborhood alleyways and streets.



Two of the teams who brought in the most litter: Shila Mylar (from left), Sheri Smith, Stephen Smith and Rick.

ment, several residents, aided by Vann Vaughan and his pickup, went through the alleyways collecting trash and debris. Without the dumpster, the best that could be done was to leave the items by the park for heavy trash pickup.

According to Solid Waste department, the driver couldn't find Cherryhurst Park because he was trying to locate it near Shepard.

Many thanks to the volunteers, including Jeff Kuchar, Rick Johnson, and others who worked hard despite this letdown by the City.

Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for contacting me today regarding the moving of water mains and water service from the rear to the front of the homes in Cherryhurst. Per my conversations with our Engineering and Construction Division, we have no plans to move the water service in your area at this time. Any future plans to move the water service would require funding through the City's five-year Capital Improvements Plan, have the approval of the Mayor and City Council and would be years in the making. After having been approved for

Civic Club Social/Organizing Committee members Phil Dyer, Alyssa Morrison, Sheila Mylar, Sheri Smith, Tori Williams and Cindy Walker worked hard to produce a successful event, providing a well-stocked refreshment table for volunteers.

Despite the lack of a promised dumpster from the Houston Solid Waste Depart-



Members of the Social/Organizing Committee, from left, Cindi Walker, Tori Williams, Sheri Smith, Alyssa Morrison and Sheila Mylar, pose for the camera during the cleanup. Not pictured are committee members Jana Wright and Phil Dyer.

funding, any potential plan would require an engineering phase whereby the concerns of the local citizens related to trees, parking, property access, timing, etc., would be taken into account and reflected in the design work.

However, the water mains in your area are reaching the end of their useful life and it may be necessary to replace them in the future. The paper work that Public Works personnel are distributing to the neighborhood is seeking permission from the homeowners to allow us to enter their property for the purpose of making

October Yard of the Month

by Jeff Corcoran and the Yard of the Month Committee

The October Yard of the Month award goes to 1810 Cherryhurst. Here's an example of a landscape that is clean neat and well balanced.

The small redbud tree and the wisteria arching over the porch seem to be brother and sister. A magnolia espalier watches from the side. Neatly trimmed boxwoods set up the mondo grass and begonias below with taller aspidistra behind.

This is our choice for yard of the month due to well-balanced landscaping, unblemished St. Augustine lawn, and clean maintenance.



sketches to include in any potential future design work. The form will also allow us to enter the property to transfer the meter and water service to the front of the property should the water service be moved in the future. This preliminary work is being conducted now on a proactive basis to facilitate any work that may occur in the future.

Again, we have no current plans to move the water service in your area and we will work closely with the local citizens and your City Council Member should it become necessary to move the water service in the future.

I hope I have addressed your concerns.

Sincerely,
Gary Norman
City of Houston Public Works Department

Neartown Super Neighborhood Update

by Mark Johnson

Members of the Neartown Association attended a fundraiser for the new Neartown Super Neighborhood Council at Rouge September 30.

Mayor White, Council Executive Directory Kathie Easterly, and Neartown Association president Jack Rose were on hand to address the 60-plus attendees at the dinner/silent auction event, which raised funds for the Council.

The Council was created by the City of Houston to promote "community, civic and social welfare of residents, busi-

nesses, institutions and property owners" of the neartown neighborhoods.

Council members comprise representatives from the Neartown Association, four neighborhoods, two businesses, a faith-based representative, and three institutional/non-profit representatives.

The Neartown area boundaries are Shepherd, Allen Parkway, US 59, Spur 527, and Taft Street. For more information on Neartown and the Superneighborhood Council, visit www.neartown.org.

PIP Report

by Tori Williams

On Wednesday, September 15, 2004 two members of the Cherryhurst Civic Club attended the Houston Police Department's Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meeting.

Unlike the usual format, the meeting was an open question and answer session. There continues to be concern about the increased amount of graffiti in Cherryhurst and surrounding neighborhoods. Therefore, most of the discussion focused on this. There were also questions about drug activity in specific parts of town. Officers encouraged residents to contact them when there is concern about a particular street corner or apartment complex. Although they may not be able to make an arrest for drug trafficking, the police can sometimes find a building violation or other offense that let the drug traffickers know that the police are aware keeping an eye on that location.

Established in 1983, the Houston

Police Department started the Positive Interaction Program (PIP) to provide local civic associations with more information about how each division operates. This is done so that citizens know what to expect should they ever need help from a particular division.

For those who would like to attend, the next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20, 2004 at the Multi Service Center at 1475 W. Gray Street. Three members of the Cherryhurst Civic Club rotate attendance at the meetings. If you would like to be a fourth "official" representative for the Club, please submit your name to Mark Johnson at mtjtx@mac.com.

Fall Parenting Seminar

A free "Parenting Seminar" will be held at the Cherryhurst Community Center, 1700 Missouri, Tuesday, November 2, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The seminar will be taught by Dr. Jan W. Lohmeyer, principal of Memorial Lutheran Classical Christian School. For more information and registration call (713) 866-4444.

Cherryhurst Directory Update

Tracy Gary reports that 77 Cherryhurst Directory forms have been received so far, with more coming in daily.

The Directory Committee is working on data entry at this time, and is soliciting advertising to cover the expense of printing, hoping to finish up sometime in November. Residents still wishing to be included in the Directory can find the form on the Cherryhurst website at <http://www.cherryhurst.com>.

CHERRYHURST CIVIC CLUB

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Cherryhurst Civic Club Advisory Committee: Pauline Edgar, Tracy Gary, Jeffrey Kuchar, Syd Moen, Flora Moon, Sheila Mylar, Vann Vaughan, Cindi Walker, Tori Williams

Block Captains: Jeffrey Kuchar, coordinator; Pauline Edgar; Susan Bizzell; Candace Lloyd, Ken Wright, Stephen Smith, Sheila Mylar, and others.

Newsletter Notes: Your comments and letters about the Newsletter are welcome! To send articles or letters to the Newsletter Editor, contact: Mark Johnson, Box 541641 Houston, Texas 77254-1641